Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
 ICA-11 IO-13 SSM-03 OMB-01 ACDA-12 EB-08 OES-07
 COME-00 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /130 W

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R 200426Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8162
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EG

USMISSION SINAI

SUBJECT: HAYKAL RENEWS ATTACK

REF: CAIRO 10685

SUMMARY: AS PROMISED, FORMER AHRAM CHAIRMAN AND NASSER CONFIDANT HAYKAL HAD SECOND "INTERVIEW" IN APRIL 19 EDITION LEFTIST WEEKLY AL.AHALI. HAYKAL AGAIN DEFENDED NASSER'S (AND HIS) ACTIVITIES AND CASTIGATED SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE AS LEADING TO DEAD END. CLAIMS KISSINGER'S NEFARIOUS OBJECTIVES HAVE ALL BEEN REALIZED. WHILE GOE HAS SURPRISED MANY BY ALLOWING HAYKAL TO CONTINF ATTACKS, WE EXPECT HE WILL BE UNDER INCREASING ATTACK FROM GUIDED PRESS. END SUMMARY.

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1. USA. HAYKAL REPEATED HIS TIME.WORN THESIS THAT USA MUST BE "NEUTRALIZED". U.S. HAS VITAL INTEREST IN MIDDLE EAST AND, WHILE THERE CONSIDERABLE CONGRUITY BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAELI INTERESTS, THESE ARE NOT IDENTICAL AND EGYPT SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS. IT "INESCAPABLE" FOR EGYPT TO CONFRONT USG BUT THIS MUST BE DONE WITHOUT VIOLENCE. AMERICA CAN BE "NEUTRALIZED" BY REDUCING

U.S. JUSTIFICATION FOR STRIKING ARABS DIRECTLY.

- 2. OCTOBER WAR. HAYKAL ALLEGED OCTOBER WAR WAS LOGICAL CONTINUATION WAR OF ATTRITION. IN 1973 EGYPTIAN ARMY PROVED ITS CAPABILITY WAGE MODERN WARFARE AND ISRAEL WAS SEVERELY STRAINED. THIS DEMONSTRATED BY FACT ISRAEL FORCED END GENERAL MOBILIZATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER WAR TO PREVENT ECONOMIC COLLAPSE. OIL WEAPON RESULTED IN "PANIC STRICKEN" WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN; RELATIONS BETWEEN SUPERPOWERS WERE ON BRINK OF ABYSS; WHILE U.S. AS RESULT SOVIET WARNING REINED IN ISRAEL. FINAL OUTCOME, HAYKAL CLAIMED, WAS IN EGYPT'S INTEREST.
- 3. DISINTEGRATION. ARAB UNITY MADE POSSIBLE OCTOBER WAR, BUT BEGAN DISINTEGRATE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER, WITH DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EGYPT AND SYRIA. HAYKAL RECALLED INTERVIEW WITH KISSINGER, SHORTLY AFTER OCTOBER WAR, IN WHICH FORMER SECRETARY TOLD HIM U.S. GOALS WERE TO GUARANTEE ISRAELI SECURITY, OUST SOVIET UNION FROM MIDDLE EAST, GUARANTEE FLOW OF OIL AND DEAL WITH EACH ARAB COUNTRY SEPARATELY. HAYKAL NOTED HE "FELT TERRIFIED" TO REALIZE ALL OF THIS HAS HAPPENED.
- 4. PEACE INITIATIVE. HAYKAL RIDICULED SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE, WHICH ADDRESSED AT OVERCOMING PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIERS. ISRAEL, HE SAID, HAS EXPANSIONIST AMBITION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO CONTROL AND INTIMIDATE AREA. THIS IS NOT PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM, NOR CAN IT BE SOLVED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTS. DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD INTENTIONS WILL HAVE NO POSITIVE RESULT. CONFLICT GENUINE, NOT ARTIFICIAL, AND SADAT'S IN-ITIATIVE CAN NOT RESOLVE ISSUE. BEGIN, HAYKAL OBSERVED. IS CLEAR, CONSISTENT MAN CARRYING OUT PLATFORM ON WHICH HE ELECTED PRIME MINISTER. BEGIN HAS ALWAYS SAID THERE NO SEPARATION BETWEEN ISRAELI PEOPLE AND TERRITORY OF ISRAEL, BY WHICH HE MEANS JUDEA, SAMARIA AND OTHER LAND OUTSIDE BORDERS OF MANDATED PALESTINE. HAYKAL NOTES SOME IMAGICE U.S. WILL BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR, OR THAT BEGIN WILL BE OVERTHROWN. THIS POSSIBLE BUT. HE ASKED RHETORICALLY, WHAT IS WEIZMAN'S PLAN FOR SOLVING CRISIS? MAXIMUM SADAT'S INITIATIVE COULD POS-SIBLY ACHIEVE, HAYKAL MAINTAINED, IS UNILATERAL AGREE-MENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL--AND THIS IS SOMETHING EGYPT HAS REJECTED IN ADVANCE.

5. INTERNAL. HAYKAL CONCLUDED "INTERVIEW" WITH OBSER-VATION THAT EGYPT CANNOT BECOME TRUE DEMOCRACY UNTIL WORKERS ENJOY RIGHHT EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH POLITICAL PARTIES BUT OBSERVED "THIS WILL TAKE SOME TIME." HE ADVOCATED FREEDOM FOR PARTIES, INCLUDING RIGHT PUBLISH OWN NEWSPAPER, BUT CLAIMED PRESS ONLY FREE TO ATTACK THE PAST; "NAMELY THE THOUGHT, POLICY AND PERSON OF NASSER." NEVERTHELESS, HAYKAL DENIED HE PLANNING JOIN THOSE ATTEMPTING ESTABLISH NASSERIST PARTY.

6. SETTLEMENT. ELSEWHERE, AL-AHALI ALLEGED CARTER GOVERNMENT TOO WEAK TO MAKE PROPOSALS ON ME SETTLEMENT PRIOR TO BEGIN VISIT TOVUWASHINGTON. ONLY DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES POSSIBLE, PAPER CLAIMED, WILL BE VAGUE STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGING THAT PRINCIPLES WILL BE POST-PONED FOR SOME YEARS ALONG LINES DEFERRED RESOLUTION WEST BANK AND GAZA SOVEREIVNTY QUESTION. FINALLY, PAPER ALLEGED USG SEEKING AIRBASE AND NAVAL FACILITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN SINAI AS PART OF SETTLEMENT.

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7. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT HAS SURPRISED MANY BY ALLOW-ING SECOND INSTALLMENT TO APPEAR. PRESS, EARLIER THIS WEEK, SUGGESTED HAYKAL BEING PERMITTED PUBLISH TO ALLOW LOCAL JOURNALISTS CONFRONT HIM DIRECTLY, RATHER THAN ATTEMPTING ANSWER CHARGES APPEARING IN BEIRUT AND ELSEWHERE. WE SUSPECT HE IS IN FOR SOME VILIFICATION. NEVERTHELESS, "INTERVIEWS" HAVE GENERATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AMONG INTELLECTUALS AND BOOSTED AL-AHALI'S CLAIM TO REPRESENT INFLUENTIAL LEFTISTS. EILTS

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To: STATE Type: TE

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